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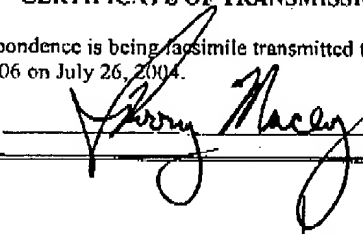
JUL 26 2004

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: CSI-2015

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Harry Macey

In re Application of:

Nguyen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/828,335

Filing Date: April 5, 2001

Title: MULTIPLE LOOP TISSUE
CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND
METHODS

Examiner: U. Ho

Group Art Unit: 3731

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the document listed on the attached Substitute Form 1449A. The Examiner is requested to make this document of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☒ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☒ A fee is required. Authorization to charge the undersigned's deposit account \$180.00 is attached.

Applicants further bring the attention of the Examiner to the following co-owned pending patent application.

U.S. Serial No. 10/715,797 filed November 18, 2003

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Substitute Form 1449A, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

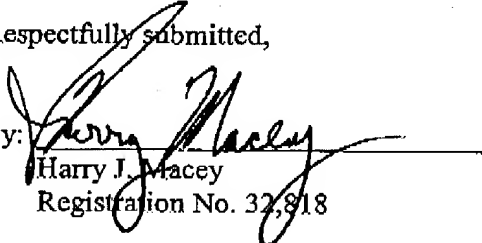
This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1947 referencing Attorney Docket No. CSI-2015. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 26, 2004

By:


Harry J. Macey

Registration No. 32,818

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	09/828,335
Sheet 1 of 1			Filing Date	April 5, 2001
			First Named Inventor	John D. Nguyen
			Group Art Unit	3731
			Examiner Name	U. Ho
			Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2015

072604

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	6,695,859		Golden, et al.	2/24/2004	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PAGE 8/47 * RCVD AT 7/26/2004 8:48:15 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXXF-1/2 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:6506549554 * DURATION (mm-ss):15-16